

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Pinnacles National Monument, east of the Salinas Valley, will receive \$1 million in construction money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

"The Recovery Act is creating jobs on the Central Coast and improving our infrastructure at the same time," said Congressman Sam Farr (D-Carmel). "This economic stimulus bill is serving to jumpstart our economy, but we'll also see many lasting improvements long after our economy has recovered."

The funds, which total \$1,056,000, will be used to construct an overlook trail and connector trail to the West Pinnacles visitor station; install six miles of fencing to protect sensitive park lands; and replace retaining walls that protect utility lines.

"Pinnacles is one of 800 sites receiving Recovery Act funding, and I'm especially proud to be addressing over \$1 million in deferred maintenance projects here," said Pinnacles National Monument Superintendent Eric Brunnemann. "Proposed construction of the Jawbone trail and overlook will be our first ADA trail on the park's west side, and the addition of six miles of exclusionary fence on our east side is an enormous step towards protecting the monument's central-coastal habitat from introduced animals that have devastated our riparian corridors."

"All of our projects have been deferred for years, if not decades, and will substantially touch the lives of all our visitors by improving their park experience and preserving the cultural and natural treasures of the Pinnacles," Brunnemann added.

The National Park Service is investing \$750 million in nearly 800 projects to stimulate the economy through the Recovery Act. All projects meet the Recovery Act's criteria of addressing highest mission needs, generating the largest number of jobs in the shortest period of time and creating lasting value for the American people.

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